



Myths of Addiction Art Show & Auction Call of Entries

Substance use disorders, commonly known as addictions, alcohol and drug use, abuse, misuse and dependence affects 1 in 4 people. And that does not even count the person suffering from a substance use disorder. Some people would have you believe that substance abuse is a moral weakness, a punishment or even an affliction. Some would even have you believe that alcohol or other drugs are the problem.

The reality is that 1 in 10 people are suffering from substance use disorders. Some times referred to as addicts or alcoholics as if the disease define who they are. A person who has a heart disease, is not called a heartic or heart abuser. When someone has a second heart attack in the hospital while being treated for the first heart attack, we don't kick them out of the hospital. If someone being treated for a substance use disorder has a relapse, we kick them out of treatment programs. Where is the logic?

We choose to stigmatizes people with substance use disorders as a weak person or a moral failure. The family tends to cover it up. Family members experience shame as if it is somehow their fault. Some people including family members try to shame the person into changing. You can always try a good dose of guilt if that does not work.

Kids who grow up in a family where there is a substance use disorder, experience lots of emotions ranging from shame and guilt to anger. Some withdraw into their own world, some act out their anger, some try endless to win the approval and praise of their parents to no avail and experience feelings of inadequacy. Some even turn to humor as a way to diffuse situations, learning very early on that if things get serious, someone is going to get hurt. Without help, these children are 4 more times likely to develop their own substance use disorder, mental illness or marry a someone suffering from a substance use disorder.

This only leads to more confusion about substance use disorders, are they learned diseases (sociological), genetic/ inherited) or biological or mental problem that leads to it. When we are confused or don't understand things, we try to distance ourselves from them. When we don't understand things, humans rely on folklore and mythology to explain what is happening. And so we have the myths of addiction.

We want to expose those myths and provide a better understanding of substance use disorders. But we don't want to stop there. We want everyone to understand that there is a healing process as with any illness or disease. Like in medicine, it is called recovery. Recovery is

usually proceeded by some form of treatment. Some people stop short of recovery or even in recovery. AA has a saying that you can sober up a 'son of a bitch', but all you have is a sober 'son of a bitch'. It is possible to get sober or clean and claim to be in recovery, but not attain sobriety. Sobriety is accepting that you can never drink and learning to not only live with it, but to again enjoy a life without the drug or alcohol of your choice. Some people would consider sobriety the outcome of transformation. Transformation is a redefining who you are or a reinventing yourself.

Dealing with substance use disorders is one of the many journeys we all deal with in life. There is pain. There is joy. Sometimes happiness, sometimes sadness. We are looking for individuals who can translate the experience of substance use disorders into visual representations of the cycle of addictions and recovery. We are open to almost any artist's interpretation of addiction. It can be from that of a childhood memory, a reoccurring nightmare, the joy of transformation, accompanying someone on their journey toward recovery and transformation.

If you think you can provide our show with a visual perspective of what happens, we want to hear from you. We are soliciting artwork for the Underground portion of our show. If it tells a story we are interested in it. All of the pieces in the Underground will be available to the public via a silent auction. We are not asking for donated pieces. We will split the proceeds with the artist 50/50. The committee selecting the artwork for the show will establish minimum bids. By signing the entry form (attached) you agree to this arrangement.

ENTRY FORM

Myths of Addiction Show – Indianapolis, Indiana

1. Make two copies of the completed form for each entry.
2. Submit one copy per image to arrive by August 17, 2009
3. Submit the other copy with each accepted artwork by 5:00 PM August 31, 2009

Artist Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Cell Phone:	Alt. Phone:	Email:
Entry #		
Title:		
Media:		
Size		
Submission of this form and enclosed images along with my signature below, signifies that I agree that EmberWood Center has the right to reproduce images for all media and publicity purposes.		
Artist Signature:		

Liability: Neither EmberWood Center, sponsors, nor the participating galleries will be liable for loss, theft, or damage to any work Submitted or exhibited in the show. Due care will be taken in handling artwork. Your entry into the exhibition indicates your acceptance of these terms and conditions and assumption of risk regarding the submission

PRESENTATION: Two-dimensional and three dimensional works in all media will be considered. All work must be the original work of the entrant, suitably mounted or framed, with hardware ready for hanging.

EMAIL, HAND DELIVER OR MAIL A COMPLETED ENTRY FORM for EACH IMAGE by August 17, 2009. The Email address is ewc@emberwood.org

Or hand deliver or mail to:

EmberWood Center, 1125 Brookside Avenue, Suite I, Indianapolis, IN. Forms must be received by 7:00 PM August 17, 2009.

If selected, invitations to show your work and notification of the exhibiting gallery will be emailed to each artist by August 24, 2009.

- If selected, each artist is responsible for hand delivery or shipping of their artwork. If shipped, the artist must bear the cost of shipping to and from the exhibition
- If you have a problem or concern about delivery, feel free to contact Vince Failla at the email address below.
- If work is not selected you will also be notified via email.

SUBMIT accepted artwork along with a copy of the entry form by 7:00 PM August 31, 2009

- Accepted Work can be hand-delivered to the EmberWood Center
- Accepted artwork, if shipped, must be delivered in a sturdy, reusable boxes accompanied by return shipping label and pre-paid return postage. It must be received by EmberWood Center no later than 7:00 PM Monday, August 31, 2009.
- A completed entry form must accompany each piece of artwork.

Pick up exhibited work from...

If you have questions, contact:

Vince Failla at vfaiila@emberwoodcenter.org (Put Myths of Addiction Show in the Subject Line.) or call 317.536.7100 ext. 1110.

Calendar:

August 17, 2009	Deadline for Entries
August 24, 2009	Official invitations emailed to participating artists (in the event no email is provided, a phone call will be made by the above date and a message will be left.).
August 31, 2009	Accepted works received
September 4, 2009	Opening Reception: Harrison Center for the Arts
_____	Pick up unsold art
_____	Check for artist portion of sold artwork mailed to artists.



Treatment. Recovery. Transformation

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